GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4513
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
REVENUE FROM SALE OF DATA
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that against an expenditure of crores of rupees incurred on acquisition of data from LANDSAT & European Remote Sensing Agency, the value of data sold during 1992-98 from these sources constituted only 61 per cent of the expenditure;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; (

(c) whether it is also a fact that very little data was sold to private sector;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase revenue from sale of data?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a)&(b) Data from different satellite systems were acquired for having continuity and complementarity in the coverage for assessment of natural resources over a period of time. In view of this strategy for data acquisition, sale of data should be viewed in the context of over-all utilisation of data from multiple satellite systems. In the case of LANDSAT, access fee was payable on annual rate for rights to acquire data within the foot print and this amount was independent of the number of scenes processed/sold. Hence, in the case of LANDSAT, there was shortfall in the revenue with reference to the expenditure incurred on acquisition of data. With the operationalisation of IRS satellites, acquisition of LANDSAT data was discontinued since 1998 and payment of access fee was stopped.

(c)&(d) Value addition service in the private sector is a recent development. Private sector has started using this data for utility planning, environmental impact analysis, etc., and hence the sale of data to private sector has increased over the years.

(e) Various promotional measures, such as seminars, symposia, workshops highlighting the potential benefits of satellite data products in many applications in active cooperation with the user agencies, have been taken up. Towards promoting the data sales, distributors within and outside the country have been appointed.